

P21933.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hitoshi HORIE

Appln. No. : 10/046,827

Filed : January 17, 2002

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMAGE CODING

Group Art Unit: 2161



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APR 18 2002
Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir :

SEP 12 2002

Technology Center 2600

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97-1.98,

Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Patent Publication No. HEI 11-289461 to HORIE, entitled "Image Coding Method and Image Coder", published October 19, 1999; and

Japanese Patent Publication HEI 8-51537 to NEC CORP, entitled "Image Processor Discriminating Character/Photograph/DOT Area", published February 20, 1996.

Each of these documents is cited at page 2 of the specification.

Copies of the above-noted publications, as well as English language abstracts, are attached hereto.

Applicant hereby calls the following co-pending and commonly assigned patent applications to the Examiner's attention:

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U.S. Patent Application No. 09/891,165 to SATO et al., entitled "Image Processing Apparatus and Image Processing Method", which was filed on June 26, 2001;

U.S. Patent Application 10/046,764 to HORIE, entitled "Arithmetic Coding Apparatus and Image Processing Apparatus", filed January 17, 2002; and

U.S. Patent Application 09/147,064 to SHEN et al., entitled "Quantization Matrix for Still and Moving Picture Coding", for which a Notice of Allowance was issued February 4, 2002.

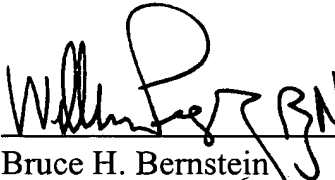
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-noted patent applications are attached hereto. However, the Examiner is respectfully requested to review the file wrapper of each U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted materials are attached hereto, and the patent documents are listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of this material.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,


Bruce H. Bernstein
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April 10, 2002
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